

April 6

# Drew Condemns Red Pamphlet in Ontario Schools

Reported circulation of a Communist pamphlet in Ontario schools brought strong condemnation from Premier Drew as the Ontario Legislature opened yesterday.

Never, he said, had the Minister or any official of the department "interfered with the freedom of expression of any teacher or any visitor to the schools." Yet it became necessary to see that no political propaganda of any kind, involving any party, should be allowed to use the schools as an agency of distribution.

## "Vicious" Pamphlet

Now, he said, a "vicious" pamphlet, comparing Churchill to Hitler, undermining Governments of Canada, assailing the British Government, had been placed in some schools by the Communists. A Communist member of Toronto's Board of Education had said of it: "I am proud that the Communists have adopted groups in other countries and are aiding them to organize."

No offense of the criminal code, the Premier said, was worse than this effort to poison young, immature minds. He brought it to the attention of the members with an appeal that they watch to prevent schools from being made the medium of further efforts of the kind, which, he pointed out, were "more insidious because the appeal is made supposedly in behalf of world youth."

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Last night School Trustee Mrs. Hazel Wigdor charged that the remark attributed to a "Communist member of Toronto Board of Education" was not correct.

"I referred to my pride in young Canadian Communists' adoption of young people's clubs in war devastated countries," said Mrs. Wigdor, "which they intend to help with material aid such as food and clothing as soon as Government regulations permit. This statement had no direct connection with the leaflet in question; it was made after another board member had said he was tired of hearing ad nauseam of so many Russians being killed in the war."